

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 remain in the application for consideration of the Examiner, with Claims 21-26 standing cancelled.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and objections are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and following remarks.

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

The Examiner alleges that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

By the instant amendment, the claims have been amended to take into consideration the concerns of the Examiner.

It is respectfully submitted that the drawings are now in full compliance with 37 CFR 1.83.

Claim 14 was objected to because of informalities.

By the instant amendment, Claim 14 has been amended to eliminate the informality.

It is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-20 are free from informalities.

The Abstract of the disclosure was objected to.

By the instant application, the original Abstract has been cancelled and a new Abstract has been provided.

It is respectfully submitted that the new Abstract is in full compliance with MPEP § 608.

Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

By the instant amendment, Claims 1, 6, 10, 15, 18, and 19 have been amended to take into consideration the helpful comments of the Examiner.

It is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-20 are in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112 and particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which Applicants believe is their invention.

Turning now to the art rejection, Claims 1-4, 18, 21, 22, 25, and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yach; and Claims 5, 15-17, 19, 20, 23, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Yach.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that Yach does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the clamp circuit with an input and output to clamp after the ESD event and delay circuit with the input and output to delay during the ESD event.

The Examiner's attention is directed to column 4, lines 60-63 where Yach discloses delay circuit 33 for delaying the raising of the voltage of the desired row of the memory array 16. And again at column 4, lines 2-6 where Yach discloses a voltage regulator 12 will clamp the desired row to be read at a voltage level that is no higher than the minimum programmed threshold voltage.

Yach does not discuss an ESD event.

It is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-20 patentably define over the applied art.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant response places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



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